SCMRRD Recreation Report
March 2012

SANTA CLARA/MOJAVE RIVERS RANGER DISTRICT (SCMRRD)

New Location:
33708 Crown Valley Road
Acton, CA 93510

Bob Blount District Ranger
Primary Contact: Karen Lane at (661) 296-9710 Ext: 221

OFFICE HOURS:

SCMRRD (District Office)	Monday – Friday	8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.	(661) 296-9710
Big Pines Information Station	Friday -Monday	8:30 am – 4 p.m.	(760) 249-3504
Grassy Hollow Visitor Center	Saturday, Sunday, and Holidays	10 a.m. - 4 pm	(626) 821-6737

NOTE: Big Pines Information Station and Grassy Hollow Visitor Center's hours of operation are subject to change due to severe weather changes and staffing availability. Please call ahead for current information.

CAMPGROUNDS:

The Angeles National Forest is dependent on nature to supply water for our campgrounds, ***therefore, there is no guarantee of water at any site; be prepared, take water with you***. It is recommended that all stream and spring water be treated before drinking.

Be advised that these campgrounds may be inaccessible at times due to road closures because of storms, road conditions, or road construction.

Table Mountain – Closed for the Season For further information contact the Concessionaire operated by American Land & Leisure at (877) 444-6777 or at www.Recreation.gov .

Mountain Oak and Lake Campgrounds Closed for the Season Concessionaire operated by American Land & Leisure for further information contact them at (877) 444-6777 or at www.Recreation.gov .

Adventure Pass or America the Beautiful Pass (Access, Annual or Senior) required in the following campgrounds:

Appletree and Peavine Campgrounds – OPEN, First come, first served, Water faucets are off.

Oak Flat Campground - OPEN. First come, first served, Bring your own drinking water.

Southfork Campground – OPEN. Bring your own water.

Southfork Group Campground- Reservations are required for the group area behind the locked gate. For information and/or reservations please call Karen Lane at the SCMRRD office at 661-296-9710 ext 221.

Sycamore Flats Campground -OPEN. First come, first served, Water faucets are off. Bring your own drinking water.

Cottonwood Campground – Open, First come, first served, bring your own water.

Sawmill Campground – Open. First come, first served, Bring your own water. Primitive camping area. There are 8 campground sites, 2 of which can be combined into a group site.

Bear Campground – Open. First come, first served, Bring your own water.

Upper Shake Campground - Temporarily **closed** due to road damage.

Blue Ridge Campground Open HIKE IN ONLY, First come, first served, Bring your own water

Guffy Campground - Access closed after Nov 7, 2011.

Lupine Campground – **Access closed after Nov 7, 2011.**
Big Rock Campground – OPEN, Hike In Only after first snow fall, First come, first served, Bring your own water.

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GROUP CAMPGROUNDS:

Jackson Flat Group Campgrounds: Closed for the Season- Season is from June-Oct. Concessionaire operated, Reservations may be made by contacting Recreation.gov on the web or by calling (877) 444-6777.
Los Alamos Campground: Open. For information contact the Concessionaire at Pyramid Lake, (661) 295-7155.

FISHING:

The Department of Fish and Game stocks many of the lakes and rivers throughout the National Forest on a bi-monthly basis. Current **stocking information** may be found on the CADFG web site at www.dfg.ca.gov/fish/Hatcheries/FishPlanting/SouthCoast. or by calling the Department of Fish & Game at **(562) 594-7268**.

LAKES:

Castaic Lake: Operated by Los Angeles County. For general information call (661) 257-4050; for information on RV parking call (661) 257-3340.
Elizabeth Lake: (Adventure Pass or America the Beautiful Pass (Access, Annual or Senior required)
Picnic area is open for day-use only. Jet skis and boats over 10 hp are prohibited. The launch ramp is open. Canoes and inflatable boats are allowed on the lake. Swimming is not recommended due to the fact that we do not have a lifeguard on duty. Adventure Pass or Golden Passport is required.
Jackson Lake: (Adventure Pass or America the Beautiful Pass (Access, Annual or Senior required)
Open 6 am to 10 pm located in the Big Pines Recreation Area. Boating is limited to small hand launch, non-power boats. The area has 8 tables and vault toilets. Lake is stocked with trout every other week from approximately May thru October. 16 yrs + are required to have a State Fishing License. You **cannot** purchase a license anywhere in the Wrightwood or Big Pines Recreation Area. **KEEP OFF THE ICE DURING WINTER.** Temperatures fluctuate and the ice is unstable
Little Rock Dam/Recreation Area: The Lake is currently empty, OHV Pit Area is Open for Use.
CURRENTLY NOT STOCKED DUE TO A ENDANGERED SPECIES IN THE AREA.
Concessionaire run. You must have a valid CA State Fishing License if you are 16+ yrs old and are fishing. Open sunrise to 7 p.m. For more information call: (661)533-1900
Pyramid Lake: For information contact the Lake Pyramid Office at (661) 295-7155. Lake is subject to closures due to heavy rains or flash flood warnings.

PLACES ACCESSIBLE FOR THE PHYSICALLY CHALLENGED:

Grassy Hollow Visitor Center: Has handicap parking and a ramp into the visitor center. The restroom, visitor center, and bird view deck is accessible. The picnic area is not accessible. For more information contact them at (626) 821-6737 or on their website at www.grassyhollow.net.
Vista del Largo Visitor Center: Open 7days/week 9am – 5:00pm**.** (except Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years Day.) Contact phone (661) 294-0219. Free tours.
Little Rock Recreation Area: Concessionaire run call (661) 533-1900 for more information
Juniper –Littlerock Dam: Has multiple sites that are fully accessible for persons with disabilities.

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PICNIC AREAS : All picnic areas require an Adventure Pass or America the Beautiful Pass (Access, Annual or Senior):

Frenchmen's Flat: Open. . Bring your own drinking water.

Big Pines Recreation Area:

Arch-Big Pines - Elevation 6,800 feet, 12 tables, and vault toilets.

Grassy Hollow: - Elevation 7,300 feet, 20 tables, vault toilets.

Jackson Lake - Elevation 6,000 feet, 8 tables, piped water, and vault toilets.

Mescal - Elevation 6,100 feet, 9 tables, bring your own drinking water, has vaulted toilets.

Table Mountain - Elevation 7,000 feet, 6 tables, no water, vaulted toilets.

Big Rock Creek Recreation Area - Open. Day use area only. Bring your own drinking water.

Littlerock Dam Area: Day use area only. Open sunrise to sunset (7a.m. to 7 p.m.)

RIVERS AND STREAMS:

Use extreme caution around streams, creeks, and rivers because we do not have lifeguards on duty, if you do enter the water areas you do so at your own risk. Some of our rivers and streams have very swift running waters and hidden hazards below the surface of the water.

ROADS:

It is important to pay attention to changing road conditions during storms. Normally, our roads are subject to rocks coming off of the banks, mud in the roadway, etc. Dirt roads are rough and not recommended for family autos. Pickup trucks and 4WD vehicles are acceptable, but extreme caution is urged.

Road Closures may occur at anytime due to weather/road conditions. Always be aware of rocks in the coming off the banks and in the roadway.. Road information can be obtained from Caltrans at **http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/roadinfo**, or you may contact them at (800) 427-7623.

Blue Ridge Road (3N06) is now Closed for the Winter Season.

Currently All Forest Roads in the Wrightwood/Big Pines area are now OPEN, but with any expected snow fall will be re-closed for the duration of the snows. (4N11, 3N26 and smaller secondary roads in the Big Pines Area.)

Old Ridge Route closed to **all motorized vehicle traffic** from Templin Highway to 8N01. (Hiking, Horseback, Bicycle ok)

HWY 2- is currently open from Vincent Gap to the 210, but will close again with the next snow fall. Check with CalTrans for all current county road conditions.

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OFF-ROAD VEHICLE AREAS:

Rowher Flat OHV: Access is through Rush Canyon Road off Sierra Highway. Open to motorcycles, ATV's, and 4-wheel drives. No stopping, unloading, or OHV riding is permitted on the Rush Canyon access road. Vault toilets are available. Spark arrestors, mufflers (4WD's), and a valid registration are required for all vehicles. A handout map of trails within the Rowher Flat OHV area are available at the District Office, or available on the ANF Website.

Drinkwater Flat OHV: Open, with portions still closed from road damage and rehab projects from the Edison power line project. Check with the SCMRRD Office for conditions

Littlerock Canyon OHV: The Pit is currently open. Call 661-533-1900 for information
Alimony Ridge OHV Route: Closed until further notice.

SPECIAL NOTE:

Protection of the Arroyo Toad promoted the closure of the **Little Rock Recreation Area** which extends from Joshua Tree Campground to the north, to Sulphur Springs Campground at the south, east along Alimony Ridge, and west to a point just the Desert Marksman permit area. This area will be closed to **ALL USE** until further notice.

Some trails within the Station Fire Closure will remain closed until further notice. To view the current area's within the closure Map please come into any FS Office or go online to http://maps.fs.fed.us/stationfire/ or to http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/angeles/ and click on Fire Closures to view maps and other information for the areas.

Always be prepared for your hike, and let someone know where you will be hiking and what time you are due back. Mountain weather can change suddenly and very drastically.
DO NOT hike into areas that have yellow flagging or signs that state an area is closed. Your life may depend on it!
Burkhart Trail: Access from Hwy 2 through Buckhorn Campground is currently closed. You can access farther west from Cloud Burst Summit by hiking down to the Cooper Canyon Trail Camp and connect with the trail head. Hiking from Devils Punch Bowl area up the trail, you will need to follow the same route to Cloud Burst Summit.
Devil's Punchbowl Trail: Call ahead to check conditions at (661) 944-2743.
Fish Canyon Trail: It is in poor condition due to washouts.
Pacific Crest Trail (PCT): Closed from Mill Creek Summit to Indian Canyon Staging area (Station Fire) Open west of Indian canyon Staging area. Please note, motorized vehicles and mountain bikes are prohibited on the PCT. See the Pacific Crest Trail Association (www.pcta.org) website for re-route information and maps.

BIG PINES RECREATION AREA: (Adventure Pass or America the Beautiful Pass (Access, Annual or Senior required)
Please call the Big Pines Visitors Center at 760-249-3504. Friday - Monday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
CURRENT CONDITIONS:
Big Pines Nature Trail: Big Pines Information Station Loop, short hike for visitors (0.5 mile).
Jackson Lake Fisherman Trail: Jackson Lake Loop, heavy use trail along shoreline (0.5 mile).
Blue Ridge Trail: Popular, short hike for visitors is open (2.2 miles).
Jackson Lake Trail: Access is from PCT to Jackson Lake (2.4 miles).
Manzanita Trail: Has been refurbished and is in good condition (5.2 miles).
Lightning Ridge Nature Trail – Inspiration Point Loop: Literature is available at Big Pines Information Station and Grassy Hollow Visitor Center (0.7 mile).
Table Mountain Nature Trail (Table Mountain Campground) (Loop): This is a popular trail for campers. Literature is available at Big Pines Visitors Center and Grassy Hollow Visitors Center (0.5 mile).

SANTA CLARA/MOJAVE RIVERS RANGER DISTRICT (CONT'D)

VISITORS ACTIVITIES:

Grassy Hollow: For information on the Visitor Center or the Volunteers of the Angeles National Forest, please contact the Center at (626) 821-6737 on Saturday or Sunday and most holidays between 10 am and 4 pm. You may also access their web site at www.grassyhollow.net. Check their web site for programs for the public and school educational programs and youth groups during the week by appointment.

WILDLIFE/BIRD VIEWING AREA:

The area is located at **Soledad Campground.** Please be advised that the campground is closed, but the viewing platform is open and has wheelchair accessible ramps and bathrooms. The viewing platform provides a "bird's eye view" into the canopy of the riparian (streamside) forest of the upper Santa Clara River. During the spring, many migratory birds may be seen in and around the trees near the platform. There are informative displays also at the viewing area.

In conjunction with the Pomona Valley Chapter, Audubon Society, **Grassy Hollow Visitor Center** has a bird viewing area located on the south deck overlooking numerous and varied bird feeders and a small water source. Local high country birds and small mammals (squirrels and chipmunks) can be enjoyed from this location which is accessible for the physically challenged. There are benches nearby and on weekends, when the Visitor Center is open a **"bird cart"** is available which contains binoculars and notebook of local birds with space for recording sightings.

Updated 3/1/2012
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